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**United States Patent [19]****Hardy et al.****[11] Patent Number: 5,920,239  
[45] Date of Patent: Jul. 6, 1999****[54] MULTIPLE DWELLING UNIT TAP OFF  
INCLUDING AN EQUALIZER CIRCUIT**

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Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Kenneth M. Massaroni; Kelly A. Gardner; Hubert J. Barnhardt III***[73] Assignee:** Scientific-Atlanta, Inc., Norcross, Ga.**[57] ABSTRACT****[21] Appl. No.: 08/946,002**

The present invention provides a tap off unit for use in a multiple dwelling unit. The tap off unit includes a housing having an input terminal and an output terminal for interposing the tap off unit in a cable signal line, a plurality of taps disposed within the housing, with each tap having a faceplate including associated signal coupling circuitry, and a circuit board disposed within the housing. The circuit board distributes a signal from the cable signal line to each of the plurality of taps within the housing and the plurality of taps are connected in parallel such that one of the plurality of taps may be removed without disruption of the signal to the remaining taps.

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[52] U.S. Cl. 333/100; 333/136  
[58] Field of Search 333/124, 125,  
333/131, 136, 100****[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**4,578,702 3/1986 Campbell, III ..... 333/136 X  
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